

Recognizing good leadership

President praises Lougheed in accepting leadership award named for the late premier

Legal obligation

First-ever Killam law professor makes it her duty to serve the world around her

Putting money where our mouth-to-mouth is

TLEF granted to improve basic life support recall

U of A pegged as a \$12.3B economic engine

Bryan Alary

The University of Alberta's impact on the Alberta economy is estimated to be \$12.3 billion, which is five per cent of the province's gross domestic product—or the equivalent of having 135 Edmonton Oilers NHL teams in Alberta, according to a new study.

“This research gives us a better understanding of the University of Alberta's importance to the Alberta economy, and indeed to the prosperity of Albertans, Canadians and the world.”

Indira Samarasekera

“When a university educates a population, it's the whole region that benefits,” said study co-author Anthony Briggs, an assistant professor in the Alberta School of Business at the U of A. “We're not looking at the cost of the education and research, which is just one slice, but estimating the value of the investment. Education and research impacts are substantial and spread across sectors—all areas of the economy share the benefit.”

Modelled on similar studies first conducted by the University of British Columbia in 2009, the U of A report focused on the direct impact of institutional and visitor spending combined with induced economic impact from university education and research.

The study showed that U of A alumni earn more because of their university education. It also showed that the U of A is a stronger economic driver than UBC, Simon Fraser University and the University of Ottawa, the comparator universities used in the study.

“This research gives us a better understanding of the University

Continued on page 3

Drink it all in



Marek Michalak (right) accepts the 2012 University Cup from Martin Ferguson-Pell.

Student success helps professor hoist University Cup

Bev Betkowski

For Marek Michalak, the joy of teaching and the excitement of research are wrapped up in his students.

“It's so rewarding to make a discovery, and you see the young people grow ... every student I have, by the fourth year, is better than I am.”

Marek Michalak

As the 2012 winner of the University Cup, the University of Alberta's highest academic honour, Michalak measures success largely by what his students achieve in the lab and the discoveries they share with him.

The University Cup pays tribute to Michalak's combined lifelong achievements in teaching, research and community service, but for him, it all comes back to the heart-beat of his lab—collaboration.

“It's so rewarding to make a discovery, and you see the young people grow ... every student I have, by the fourth year, is better than I am,” Michalak says. “You are only as good as your people; they make the discovery, all I do is support them.” Michalak was honoured at the annual Celebrate! Teaching, Learning and Research event held Sept. 27.

He is immensely proud of the 27 post-doctoral fellows, 17 graduate students and 53 summer students he has mentored since joining the U of A's Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry in 1987 as an associate professor and researcher in molecular medicine.

Since then, Michalak and his beloved teams of “young people” have, over the years, explored the

frontiers of molecular cell biochemistry as well as cardiovascular and multiple sclerosis (MS) research. Just last year, he and one of his PhD students, Allison Kraus, earned national recognition for breakthroughs in MS research.

In his view, Michalak learns as much from his students as they do from him.

“They create a dynamic environment, they bring new ideas and they

come from a variety of disciplines and countries.”

Independent, well-travelled and in step with all the latest research literature, they energize Michalak, who, as a researcher, is as impressive as his students.

His lab has drawn \$24 million in research funding to date, he has published more than 200 academic papers, and he is a leader in research

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Mothballed specimen finds its way to Augustana

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folio

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President renews Lougheed's vision in accepting award

Michael Brown

In accepting Canada's Public Policy Forum's award for leadership in public policy Sept. 26, University of Alberta President Indira Samarasekera urged Albertans to rededicate themselves to Peter Lougheed's extraordinary vision.

The award, named in honour of Lougheed—Alberta's 10th premier and U of A alumnus, who passed away Sept. 13—is presented to Western Canadian leaders who have had a national impact on policy and good governance. Samarasekera's acceptance speech centred solely on the immense impact Lougheed's life had on the province, the nation and the university.

She talked about how his years spent at the University of Alberta embodied the university experience—as a Golden Bears football player, president of the students' union, editor of *The Gateway* student newspaper and law student. He so cherished his time at the U of A, it is said, he always wore his U of A ring. Lougheed's attachment to his alma mater was no secret as his funeral procession made a special stop in front of Rutherford House, where he once lived as a student, before continuing to Calgary for his burial.

"He would come, unfailingly, to the annual Peter Lougheed Scholarship luncheon and confer a touch of greatness on us all by his presence, but especially the students," said Samarasekera. "He



President Indira Samarasekera and Peter Lougheed at the U of A's 2008 Charter Day Dinner.

would shake their hands with that inimitable twinkle in his blue eyes and capture their attention with his genuine curiosity about their lives and their dreams.

"He would pass the torch, over and over again, to an outstanding group of young men and women, the Peter Lougheed scholars, whom he called on to shape Alberta's future by using their gifts and talents for the highest purpose."

Besides recounting Lougheed's many accomplishments, Samarasekera dedicated her talk to reviving Lougheed's ideals.

"The 21st century is being called the Human Capital Century. Peter Lougheed was ahead of his

time, because he had the foresight to usher this era into Alberta decades ago," she said.

Samarasekera recalled a talk Lougheed gave at the university's 2008 Charter Day Dinner, an event in honour of the U of A's first 100 years, where he recounted with pride the policies he put in place as premier in support of higher education, including leading the country in post-secondary education. To do this, Alberta became the first province to create a ministry of advanced education, and Lougheed followed that up by creating a wave of scholarships, the Heritage Fund and the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research.

"What an extraordinary vision. What exceptional leadership. Tonight we recognize exemplary leadership in Canada. We would be wise to heed Premier Lougheed's example of leadership."

Joining Samarasekera in accepting the award were Don Martin, renowned journalist and author; James Palmer, partner in the law firm Burnet, Duckworth & Palmer; and Nancy Southern, daughter of famed U of A alumni Ron and Marg Southern, and deputy chair, president and CEO of ATCO Group.

Canada's Public Policy Forum is an independent, not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of government in Canada through enhanced dialogue among the public, private and voluntary sectors. ■

Health research grant helps U of A team take on Alzheimer's

Michael Brown

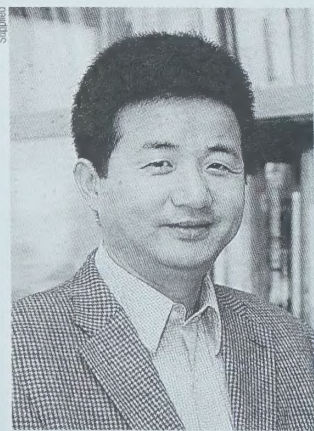
One out of 11 Canadians suffers from some form of dementia, and there is no known cure.

The federal government is looking to the expertise of the University of Alberta to reduce those odds, announcing Sept. 25 that Liang Li, Canada Research Chair in Analytical Chemistry and researcher in the Department of Chemistry, received a three-year, \$600,000 2012 Collaborative Health Research Projects grant to take on one of the most pervasive forms of dementia, Alzheimer's disease.

Li says that although diagnostic accuracy of Alzheimer's can be 90 per cent, it is often made in the later disease stages when irreversible brain damage has already occurred. He adds that developing drugs for treating the disease is hindered by the lack of definitive chemical biomarkers that can be used for monitoring the disease's progression, particularly in the earlier stages of Alzheimer's.

"Thus, finding sensitive biomarkers for the early diagnosis or detection of Alzheimer's is critical for managing and treating this devastating disease," he said.

Li said his proposed research focuses on applying newly developed mass spectrometry tools to search for metabolite biomarkers of Alzheimer's that can ultimately be used in clinical applications. To do so, Li will be collaborating with David Wishart, professor in the departments of biological sciences and



Liang Li

computing sciences; David Westaway, Canada Research Chair in Prion Disease; Roger Dixon, Canada Research Chair in Cognition in Aging; and researchers with DynaLIFE, the team's industrial partner brought aboard to help validate the biomarkers and potentially commercialize the use of the biomarkers for diagnosis of Alzheimer's.

"The U of A is one of the leading institutions in the world on metabolomics research and its applications in the biomedical field," said Li. "I'm working with world-class and top-notch researchers in their respective fields. Now we will work together to try to find the Alzheimer's biomarkers."

The Collaborative Health Research Projects program is a partnership between the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Grants offered under the program will assist with interdisciplinary collaborations between researchers in the fields of the natural sciences, engineering, and the health sciences. Grant recipients are selected following a rigorous peer review competition. ■

UCup: 'You are only as good as your people'

Continued from page 1

training and discovery in molecular cell biochemistry as well as in cardiovascular and MS research. His awards list is long and distinguished, including Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and two honours he holds dear: Distinguished University Professor (awarded in 2011 by the U of A), and the Excellence in Mentoring Award from the U of A Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry.

Michalak, who grew up in Poland, fell in love with science as an undergraduate at the University of Warsaw.

"I realized how much I enjoyed the 'search' part of research, and protein biochemistry was always my favourite subject." Higher education was important to the family; his father was an engineer, his sister majored in chemistry. Michalak earned a master's degree and then a PhD in biochemistry in Poland before coming to Canada and the University of Toronto.

After three years there, Michalak made the jump to the U of A, a move he calls "one of the best decisions I made in my life. The University of Alberta has one of the best departments in biochemistry in the world. There is a lot of support for basic research in Alberta."

Devoting his focus to protein-folding diseases such as Alzheimer's, MS and cystic fibrosis, Michalak and his team of students probe the mysteries of how to manipulate molecules to slow the progression of these degenerative ailments. The team also studies cardiovascular failure and how the connections between the brain and the body work.

He became a full professor in 1994 and, feeling compelled "to help influence the future of the department," served as chair of the Department of Biochemistry from 2004 to 2009. Michalak then became vice-dean of research, an appointment that runs to 2014. Instrumental in organizing key conferences, working with the Heart and Stroke Foundation and with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Michalak strives to ensure his team's work strengthens the U of A's reputation. "The whole lab has been an ambassador for the U of A nationally and internationally."

Michalak is proud to receive the University Cup. "It's a huge honour, but I should be thanking the university for what it has done for me. The lab and the people are here because of the support we have here."

"Hopefully we are doing something that matters." ■

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Andrew Connelly, who won a now-vintage Butterdome butter dish as part of Folio's Sept. 21 "Are You a Winner?" contest. Connelly identified the photo as having been taken in the FAB Gallery of Gavin Renwick's "Counterpoint: The Aesthetics of Post-Colonialism" exhibit held over until Oct. 13. To win your own butter dish, identify where the object pictured is located and email your answer to folio@ualberta.ca by noon on Monday, Oct. 15, and you will be entered into the draw.



Four fellows poised for contributions worthy of Banting

Michael Brown and Jenna Hoff

Sir Frederick Banting, the Canadian physician, researcher, Nobel laureate and war hero who, together with his assistant Charles Best, is credited with the discovery of insulin, left rather big shoes to fill when he died in 1941.

To honour his legend, as well as start the clock on the legacies of some of Canada's and the world's sharpest minds, the federal government has announced the recipients of the 2012–2013 Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships, four of which belong to the U of A.

Georg Schmoelzer, a PhD from Austria; Aviad Levin, Israel; Siddhartha Das, India; and Greg Breed, United States, will all call the U of A home for the next two years as they

conduct their research. Each fellowship is worth \$70,000 per year.

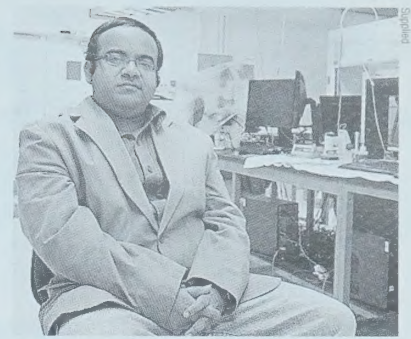
"The Banting program helps attract top young research talent to our universities," said President Indira Samarasekera. "These post-doctoral fellows are scholars who are poised to make major contributions in their fields of knowledge."

Schmoelzer's research project will focus on respiratory function at birth, Levin studies the interactions between hepatitis C virus proteins and nucleoporins, Breed uses adaptive modelling of animal telemetry data to build better analyses of animal movement to conserve and protect Canadian wilderness, and Das says he is hoping to pioneer a microchannel-based technique to remove asphaltene, a heavy and viscous component that creates extreme difficulties in transporting and handling, from heavy oil.

"Continuous depletion of conventional energy resources such as coal and petroleum has made alternate resources like reserves of heavy oil extremely important," he said.

Das came to the U of A from India by way of the Netherlands in December 2011 to conduct post-doctoral research under mechanical engineering professors Sushanta Mitra in the Micro- and Nano-scale Transport Laboratory and Thomas Thundat in Nano-Interfaces and Molecular Engineering.

"While I could have chosen any top U.S. school for my continued post-doctoral research, the world-class quality of professors Mitra and Thundat and their research groups attracted me to the U of A," said Das. "They are world leaders on micro-nano-sciences and their applications, and their research groups have the best facilities and world-class scientists. I was thrilled to



Siddhartha Das's research interests focus on refining heavy oil to make it easier to transport and handle.

have the opportunity to work with these two great minds."

The Banting fellowships are administered by Canada's three research granting agencies—the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. ■

U of A a destination for international leaders

Michael Davies-Venn

As researchers and students continue working to address some of the world's most pressing needs, it's important that viewpoints from around the world are part of that effort.

The sense that much of the world is now represented on campus resonated with Murray Gray, University of Alberta vice-provost (academic), as he welcomed international undergraduate, sponsored and education abroad students Sept. 24 at the Chancellor's Reception for International Scholarship Recipients. Looking at a group of students from just about every continent, he said he sees how the U of A has become significantly internationalized.

"This year the U of A welcomed 1,100 new undergraduate students and about 650 new graduate students from 56 different countries. That brings the total number of international students on campus to approximately 5,800," Gray said. "That's a tremendous community that is enriching our university, as well as the city of Edmonton and the province of Alberta."

Among them was Tinalin Yang, whose journey to the U of A took an unusual path that started when his mother was studying the qin zither, an ancient Chinese instrument.



Ralph Young hosted international scholarship recipients Sept. 24.

"I was curious about it and she found out that I learned faster than she did, so she sent me to study with a master," said Yang, who won eight scholarships. He excelled studying an instrument he says was once played only by Chinese emperors, scholars and generals. That success led to an invitation to play and talk at the U of A last year. The visit left a lasting impression when he was invited to visit some research labs.

"It was the first time that I saw research being done in such high-tech labs, and I made up my mind then to apply to come to this university," he said. "The thing that impressed me most was professor Chen Jie's work, because it's interdisciplinary. That's why I changed my faculty from engineering to science, and enrolled in the Science 100 program."

U of A chancellor Ralph Young said the scholarships are an investment by the U of A in future leaders. Young noted contributions by former students, such as Krishan Joshee, Yasmin Jivraj and Lubomyr T. Romankiw, who were celebrated during Alumni Weekend and who have an international background.

"You too can have the kind of distinguished careers that these individuals have had," Young told the scholarship recipients. "We hope you take your career to great heights in the future. We will be here to support you."

Several of the students spoke about the support they've been receiving. Most said the U of A's reputation and scholarships were foremost in their minds in deciding to come to the university. But since they've been here, they've also found reasons to stay.

"The people at the international office help you with every single process, and it really helps you fit in," says Zartaj Habib, from Pakistan. "It really helps when you come to a new place and have no idea how it runs, especially if you have no relatives and have come alone."

That sentiment was echoed by Saransh Saxena, a student from India who also won eight scholarships: "I feel like my university is my home." ■

There's a couple of turkeys in every trot



The 53rd annual Turkey Trot Sept. 29 saw 605 participants raise \$3,025 in support of the U of A's 2012 United Way Campaign.

University a strong driver of Alberta's economic prosperity

Continued from page 1

of Alberta's importance to the Alberta economy, and indeed to the prosperity of Albertans, Canadians and the world," said U of A President Indira Samarasekera. "We enjoy that prosperity thanks to the inspiring work of our faculty, hard-working staff and talented alumni who prepare and create new opportunities for today's students and tomorrow's leaders."

The U of A's economic impact exceeded UBC's own findings of \$10.4 billion, as well as those of the University of Ottawa (\$3.9 billion) and Simon Fraser University (\$3.7 billion), which had previously done similar studies. A key driver of that success is from the "education premium"—higher-value economic activities that are driven by alumni educated at the U of A.

U of A alumni resulted in a \$4.1-billion education premium—1.5 times greater than UBC's (\$2.7 billion), and outpacing Simon Fraser's (\$1.7 billion) and the University of Ottawa's (\$1.6 billion).

"The results are very robust," Briggs said, "and we know the difference is because we have a large alumni base in Alberta, where education really matters for earnings."

The study also showed that research at the U of A has a larger impact on the provincial economy than the comparators, fuelled by research and development and the overall strength of the Alberta economy. U of A research over the last 30 years was estimated to have an indirect annual impact of \$5.7 billion, slightly higher than that of UBC (\$5 billion) and substantially higher than that of Simon Fraser (\$852 million).

"When you look at research and development growth, the University of Alberta is a large player and has a higher institutional share," Briggs said.

The U of A study follows methodology developed at UBC, but represents the first time comparator universities have been shown side by side, he added.

"Universities have multiple avenues that contribute to societies, and this economic study is the first to measure impact relative to other Canadian institutions," he said.

"In a way, this is starting to say, let's put us on the same page and measure the same thing—that should be a good thing for all institutions so that we all have common metrics." ■

2012 - 2013 SEASON

EDMONTON CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY

MARC-ANDRÉ HAMELIN, PIANO
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 8 PM
CONVOCAATION HALL

CAPPELLA ARTEMISIA
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 8 PM
CONVOCAATION HALL

BEN HEPPNER, TENOR
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 7 PM
WEST END CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

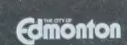
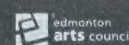
CONSTANTINOPLE
FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 8 PM
CONVOCAATION HALL

TOKYO STRING QUARTET & JON KIMURA PARKER, PIANO
SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 8 PM
MCDUGALL UNITED CHURCH

THE EDMONTON CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY

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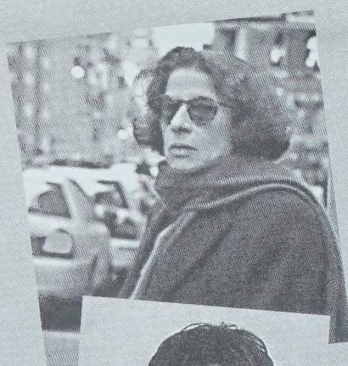
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5 DAYS, 12 *TECTONIC* EVENTS

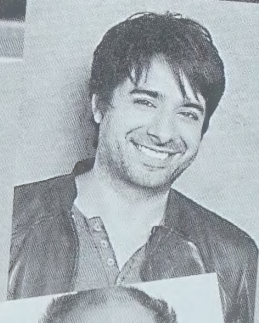
The University of Alberta's Festival of Ideas brings performers, writers, visual artists, scientists, public intellectuals, and religious and spiritual leaders to present a series of events that stimulate learning, discussion and discovery.

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NOVEMBER 14-18, 2012



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LEBOWITZ**
WITH ELEANOR WACHTEL
FRIDAY, NOV. 16, 8 P.M.



**JIAN
GHOMESHI**
SUNDAY, NOV. 18, 2 P.M.



NOBEL PRIZE WINNER
**THOMAS
SARGENT**
SATURDAY, NOV. 17, 8 P.M.



**STEVEN
PINKER**
WEDNESDAY, NOV. 14, 8 P.M.



**CHAN
KOONCHUNG**
WITH JAN WONG
SATURDAY, NOV. 17, 4 P.M.
SUNDAY, NOV. 18, 2 P.M.



**LEYMAH
GBOWEE**
AND



**TAWAKKOL
KARMAN**
SUNDAY, NOV. 18, 7 P.M.

MORE INFORMATION AND TICKETS AT festivalofideas.ca

Law professor puts expertise into service

Michael Brown

Never one to get too comfortable within the confines of the so-called ivory tower, Joanna Harrington believes her abilities as a legal academic, researcher and university teacher have benefited from her experiences lending her skills and expertise as a law professor to the outside world.

"Being a law professor has opened doors to unusual but enjoyable experiences to go out into the wider legal community and then come back in to the university," said Harrington, who recently received the 2012-13 Killam Professorship—the first law professor to win the award. "I believe getting out and about, and bringing that knowledge back to the classroom, can be what makes a law professor's work interesting to her students."

Since joining the Faculty of Law in 2004, Harrington has made the most of her opportunities to engage with the community within her field of international law. Harrington was appointed as the Scholar-in-Residence with Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, assuming an operational role within the legal bureau from 2006 to 2008 with respect to matters of international human rights law and international criminal law, and

representing Canada at the United Nations and the Organization of American States in the negotiation of new human rights instruments.

"The secondment to government was a very good arrangement for the university, as well as for me," remembered Harrington. "Having that operational experience, day in and day out, providing legal advice on matters of foreign affairs, infused my teaching when I came back to the university."

More recently, Harrington spent part of February in Paramaribo, Suriname—the smallest independent country in South America—teaching (for the second time) an intensive course on international human rights law as part of a collaborative capacity-building project sponsored by the United Nations and the Surinamese government.

Harrington has also collaborated with lawyers with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Canadian Forces, hosting a summer workshop, and she has presented her research in countries around the world—a service she sees many of her colleagues also undertaking. She also serves as the chair of the Alberta Press Council, a body created to receive complaints about member newspapers. "As law professors, I think we see ourselves as being able to contribute particular skills that are relevant

Killam

to community organizations, whether local or international," she said.

The main thrust of Harrington's research is in the areas of constitutional and international law, specifically international human rights law and how it relates to domestic affairs, as well as international criminal law and how the world community should address mass atrocities.

"There is now an International Criminal Court that is making efforts to end impunity for the world's worst crimes, namely genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes," said Harrington. "Legal researchers are looking at what improvements we can make to ensure those responsible are prosecuted for such crimes."

Beyond her research and teaching responsibilities, Harrington also serves as an associate dean in the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research. And although administration means less teaching, Harrington says her job of working toward ensuring fairness and certainty in the U of A's 70-plus graduate programs is one way for her to support the university's wider mission.

"From my view as a professor, who has now risen through the ranks, we have skills to share and I believe that



Joanna Harrington is the first-ever law professor to be named a Killam Professor.

we do have an obligation to serve at a certain point in our careers," she said, citing recent studies suggesting that having clear and fair rules is one criterion of excellence for graduate programs. "If that's the case, I guess

there's a contribution to be made by having a legal academic serving in an associate dean capacity, and I do believe that service, along with teaching and scholarship, is an important part of academic life." ■

Reports find HUB Mall incident response appropriate

Michael Brown

In a pair of reports looking into the actions of University of Alberta officials in responding to the June 15 HUB Mall incident that left three security-company employees dead and one seriously wounded, the university's Risk Management Services office has determined that the situation was handled appropriately and in a timely manner.

"Bearing in mind that emergency response to violent crime such as this is the responsibility of the city police, who did their job very well, we believe our emergency response processes and actions functioned effectively in this situation," said Philip Stack, associate vice-president of Risk Management Services and chief author of the reports. "No members of our community were injured; we worked effectively with emergency responders; we communicated with all of our many stakeholder groups; and the university was able to return to its normal work very quickly."

During the incident, the university's Crisis Management Team (CMT) was required to support first responders, displaced university residents, members of the university community and university events affected by the incident. While the incident highlighted the strength of the CMT and the benefits of routine exercises and drills, said Stack, it also revealed areas for improvement relating to staffing and the speed with which an incident can overwhelm first-responder resources.

With a desire to continually improve the response to emergency situations and to address concerns about the HUB Mall incident, the U of A commissioned a pair of reports looking into the CMT's actions in response to the incident. The first report, a standard debrief produced after activation of the CMT and the Emergency Operations Centre, looked at what was done well and areas that can be improved upon.

The second report looked more closely at how administrators communicated events to the university community, specifically focusing on questions asked by some members of the university community as to why the university notification system was not used.

In this case, the report supported the decision not to implement the university notification system, citing the information that was available immediately following the incident and the nature of the incident itself.

"There were some very real and legitimate worries and anxiety people expressed to us concerning the decisions made with regard to the communication of the June 15 incident to the university community," said Stack. "Based on the facts associated with the incident and our current policies on the use of the system, we have determined that the university acted clearly within defined policies and procedures."

"That being said, we are listening to those who raised concerns and will continue to review our emergency protocols and take a closer look at the issues surrounding the deployment of the emergency notification system with less than perfect information."

The two reports identified 19 recommendations for administrators to review. The recommendations can be found on the Office of Emergency Management website at www.oem.ualberta.ca.

"We have already corrected certain elements of our systems, including a glitch in our mass email capabilities and in processes to reach senior U of A Protective Services officials during off hours," said Stack. "We will learn from the whole experience and will be better prepared in future."

A third-party report is underway on how the university responded to the incident, with a significant focus on communications and interaction with the Edmonton Police Service. Details are expected before the end of the year. ■

Innovative website tracks homophobia on Twitter

Michael Brown

In the time it takes you to read this story, the word "faggot" will have appeared on Twitter about 80 times.

"What we're saying is the old nursery rhyme your parents would tell you, 'Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me,' is wrong."

Kristopher Wells

That word, and terms like "That's so gay," "dyke" and "no homo," are all too commonly used on Twitter, the social media giant. And now, they are all being tracked by Nohomophobes.com, an innovative website out of the University of Alberta's Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services (iSMSS) designed to confront homophobic language head-on.

Kristopher Wells, associate director of iSMSS, says the site interweaves social media and public education to facilitate a conversation on the impact of discrimination, prejudice and hate.

"The idea of the website is to really serve as a social mirror that reflects the pervasive and damaging use of what we call casual homophobia in our society," said Wells, who is also an assistant professor in the Faculty of Education. "What we're saying is the old nursery rhyme your parents would tell you, 'Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me,' is wrong."

"Words have the power to shape identity, people's reality and their possibilities in life."

Brought online in a partnership with Calder Bateman in July, Nohomophobes.com tracks derogatory terms in real time in a way that resembles stocks on a stock market. Since July 5, 2012, the site has counted nearly 2.7 million uses of the word "faggot" on Twitter, far and away the most used of the four terms being tracked.

"And [faggot] is not used in very many nice ways," said Wells. "What we've seen is this kind of derogatory language, whether it happens on Twitter or elsewhere, really furthers stereotypes and isolates sexual and gender minorities, their friends and their families."

He says the institute is particularly concerned about the impact homophobia, casual or otherwise, has on young people, pointing to the increase in cases of youth who have taken their own lives because of homophobic bullying.

Wells explains the site makes it obvious—in spite of the fact that many of the tweets are not intended to be negative or hurtful—that sexual minority youth live every day in an intense context of negative, often hate-filled input.

"What the website then becomes is a call to action," he said. "It is about people no longer participating in this kind of casual homophobia."

Beyond the real-time collection of homophobic tweets, the site encourages its visitors who participate on Twitter to hashtag #nohomophobes when they see or encounter homophobia.

"We want people to speak up and help break the silence that surrounds these issues," said Wells. "When we don't intervene and we don't speak up and say that's unacceptable, our silence makes us complicit in the act of discrimination."

Wells says the U of A has long been a leader in this fight, adding he believes this is an ideal project for the university. Besides the creation of iSMSS, the university has supported many sexual-minority projects including the creation of Camp fYrefly, a learning retreat for sexual-minority youth, and works with local organizations to help translate its research knowledge into community-based practice. Last year, for instance, Wells worked with the Edmonton Public School Board to help develop a new sexual identification and gender identification policy to offer protection and support to students, staff and families.

"The institute was created by the university to engage in leading-edge research to help mobilize knowledge into inclusive social action and, ultimately, to engender social dialogue on this pressing social issue," he said. "With this site, we see the University of Alberta continuing its pioneering work and showing its community leadership by using this unique form of digital research as a primary research tool." ■

NO
HOMO
PHOBES
DOT COM

U of A grant helps team breathe new life into CPR training

Michael Brown

Is it chest compressions then rescue breathing, or the other way around? And how many of each?

Being in the midst of an emergency where performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation is a necessity is probably not the most opportune time to realize that you don't remember the first thing about the CPR certification course you took three months ago, but it happens more often than not.

"Right now if you are a health-care provider, a nurse or a physician, and if you want to go update your CPR, it is a four-hour course, you do it in a classroom. And we know that within a few months after doing the course, you will have forgotten most of what you learned," said Jonathan Duff, professor in the Department of Pediatrics. "The research says after three to nine months, the ability to recall proper CPR is poor, so what we're proposing is developing a new way to teach basic life support."

"The TLEF gives educators the resources to pursue these innovative educational ideas or theories."

Jonathan Duff

Duff says good CPR is one of the only things that have ever been shown to improve the outcome for somebody who has gone into cardiac arrest. Yet even among health-care

professionals, performance is poor—a statistic that he says goes back to how CPR is taught.

Duff says CPR is currently taught using a mannequin's torso, which students practise on before demonstrating their command of the technique to the instructor.

What Duff and his team, which includes Carol Hodgson, Gilbert Chair in Medical Education Research, are proposing instead is a training model called high-fidelity simulation, which has students learn in an environment that is as authentic to real-life situations as possible. Duff says studies show that subjects recall information better in contexts

similar to the one in which they learned the information.

"The idea is that, rather than doing CPR in the classroom on a mannequin in front of a bunch of strangers, you'll be doing CPR training in a room that looks just like a hospital room, with two or three of your colleagues you work with all the time, on a mannequin that has a monitor with vital signs that you see in real life," said Duff. "There will be alarms flashing, there will be a little bit of chaos, which is what you would expect to happen in a hospital, just to make the environment a little more realistic."



Jonathan Duff is using a TLEF grant to make basic life support more memorable.

TLEF

Another strategy being employed in Duff's proposed CPR classroom is an educational modality known as "trained to perfection."

"If you look at how experts or professionals perfect a task, they will repeat that one task over and over until it is perfect," said Duff, pointing to how, for instance, a tennis professional learns to serve. "When we teach CPR, we just teach the whole process and say, 'That's pretty good, now you can go.' What we are doing now is breaking down CPR into individual, very specific tasks, and you're going to have to do it until it is perfect."

With the broad strokes for this updated CPR course in place, Duff says his team needs to outline the specifics for the course, put medical students through various iterations of the course and then test the outcomes to see whether recall was improved. For this, Duff received an \$18,400 Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund grant from the University of Alberta.

"The TLEF gives educators the resources to pursue these innovative educational ideas or theories," said Duff. "It gives us an opportunity to have the resources to do these pilot studies, to see what works."

He adds he is hopeful that his study has enough of the right people interested—mainly the organizations that create the CPR courses every year—to possibly modify how CPR is taught. "This is a small start to that process, but you have to start somewhere, and the TLEF gives us that start." ■





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Augustana Campus unites to secure the gift of extinct moth specimen

Christopher Thrall

It was the equivalent of finding a beautifully mounted dodo bird at a garage sale.

When developmental biologist Tom Terzin discovered the mint-condition, extinct *Urania sloanus* on an eBay auction, both his academic interest and his collector's spirit were set ablaze.

The gorgeous, jewel-toned, day-flying Jamaican moth was last recorded in 1895. The seller had placed a reserve bid of nearly \$6,000 on the specimen, and Terzin couldn't meet the minimum amount on his own to add it to his enormous private collection. He sent out a.m.s.sage to his colleagues

at Augustana Campus in Camrose, in hopes that they would enjoy the sight of the rare moth before it was snapped up by a large museum or private collector.

"*U. sloanus* is one of the world's most beautiful moths—if not the most beautiful one," he wrote, estimating its value at closer to \$25,000. "Unfortunately it is gone forever. There are only several specimens preserved in the most prestigious world collections, and the one offered on eBay is in a perfect condition, maybe the best-preserved specimen in existence!"

Terzin's tone of mixed regret and enthusiasm struck a charitable chord. In amounts of \$50 to \$100, a flood of donations came in. The first

arrived within an hour of the email. There was \$1,700 in pledges within another half-hour, and the remainder was contributed in less than a day. The 300-strong Augustana faculty and staff contributed enough to meet—and exceed—the reserve bid.

Along with the donations came comments of support from Augustana's interdisciplinary community.

"Very beautiful specimen," wrote chemistry professor James Kariuki along with his pledge. "I couldn't stop thinking of all the chemical reactions producing such brilliant colours."

"It struck me that we might need a soundtrack for this magical moth fundraising," wrote music professor Alex Carpenter as he submitted a link to Johann Strauss's *Nachtfalter Waltz* ("Moth Waltz").

"I'm not crazy about insects," wrote mathematics professor Bill Hackborn along with his pledge, "but your moth is really beautiful—even mathematically so—and the wildfire you started here on campus is irresistible!"

Flying under the online-auction radar, the moth had only one bidder: Augustana. *Urania sloanus* is now on its way to the Camrose-based campus, and Terzin is overwhelmed by his colleagues' generosity. The moth will belong to the University of Alberta, to be used for teaching

and research—including a course that mixes art and biology—as well as for public education exhibits that Terzin mounts using his own exotic collection.

Terzin is deeply touched by how the campus pulled together to make his dream come true. "It is a day I treasure in my heart, regardless of winning the moth," he said. "I believed somehow from the very beginning that something important would happen, but I could not dream of the extent of support I

received. What I feel is that we are one big family."

"I'm always on the side of whatever things are beautiful," wrote visual arts professor Keith Harder, paraphrasing the University of Alberta motto, as he contributed. "Though this moth will be less about what we win and more about how we win it. That little critter may well become emblematic about the kind of things we—as Augustana—are prepared to rally around!" ■



Augustana biologist Tom Terzin shows off the prized specimen of an extinct moth.

Past chancellor acclaimed for Aboriginal advocacy

Bev Betkowski

A white shirt smuggled from his own closet was presented to University of Alberta chancellor emeritus Eric Newell Sept. 24, as he was honoured for his contributions as a business leader to the Aboriginal community.



Chancellor emeritus Eric Newell receives a ribbon shirt from Tracy Bear Sept. 24.

The button-down garment, which had been decorated with streamers of coloured ribbon (green and gold to represent the U of A, red to represent new beginnings), symbolized Newell's dedication to advancement of Aboriginal Peoples throughout his career as a business executive with Syncrude and then as a humanitarian involved with educational initiatives, including at the U of A.

The presentation was in recognition of Newell recently being named the 2012 recipient of the Award for Excellence in Aboriginal Relations by the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business, awarded for his many years of advocating for advancement and educational

opportunities of Aboriginal people. Newell was the second person ever to receive the award, which was first presented to former Canadian prime minister Paul Martin.

The ribbon shirt was presented with heartfelt thanks by Tracy Bear, the first-ever recipient of a U of A scholarship created by Newell and his wife Kathy. Now busy earning a PhD at the U of A, Bear received the Dean's Citation scholarship in 2005, and remembers what it meant to her, not only financially, but also as an Aboriginal student.

"The biggest gift for me was realizing there were people out there who cared. Eric knew that investing in post-secondary education for First Nations, Métis and Inuit people would enhance their participation in society," Bear said.

Today, Bear and Newell both serve as special advisors to the provost at the U of A.

As president of Syncrude, Newell led the way in developing a "good neighbour" approach to Aboriginal communities affected by oilsands development.

Newell served on the U of A Board of Governors from 1996 to 2002, the last four of those years as the chair. He then sat as the university's 18th chancellor from 2004 to 2008, and upon retiring from that post, he and his wife gave \$1 million toward an Aboriginal Gathering Place to be built on campus. Fundraising is still underway.

The project remains close to his heart, Newell told his audience.

"It is important to create a sense of place for our First Peoples on campus, a place of celebration. It creates a sense of hope, particularly among young Aboriginal people. They will know that post-secondary education should be a part of their dreams and aspirations."

Newell also praised key U of A leaders, including provost Carl Amrhein, for kick-starting Aboriginal education projects on campus, among them the Aboriginal Teacher Education Program and the Council on Aboriginal Initiatives. There is an urgent need to meet a fast-rising demand for educating coming generations of Aboriginal youths, Newell said.

"It's a great place to sort out really good initiatives and get things moving at a faster pace." ■

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David Frum

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David Frum is a contributing editor for Newsweek, The Daily Beast and a CNN Commentator. He is the author of seven books, including most recently, his first novel *Patriots*, published in April 2012.

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New gene-therapy approach looks to improve obesity treatment

Raquel Maurier

Medical researchers at the University of Alberta have found a new way of using gene therapy to treat obesity. The treatment was successful, resulting in less weight gain, higher activity levels and decreased insulin resistance in lab models on a high-fat, high-sugar diet.

Jason Dyck, a researcher in the departments of pediatrics and pharmacology, and his team found a way to deliver the obesity treatment via DNA as opposed to a virus, which has had limited success in the past, especially over the long term. The results they demonstrated corroborated findings by other researchers who conducted short-term studies or used more risky methods of gene delivery.

"I think our findings may bring this treatment one step closer to clinical trials, as this approach appears to be much safer than conventional forms of gene therapy," said Dyck, an Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions senior scholar.

The obesity treatment focused on increasing levels of adiponectin, a hormone secreted from fat cells. As a person gains weight and fat cells get larger, the body secretes less of this hormone. People who are thin secrete high levels of this hormone.

"This hormone seems to be protective against a number of diseases, including diabetes and cardiovascular disease, as well as weight gain," said Dyck, who is also the director of the Cardiovascular Research Centre. "But as you gain weight, less adiponectin is secreted and you lose the beneficial effects associated with this hormone."



Jason Dyck and his medical research team have found a new, safer way to deliver gene therapy for obesity.

Lab animal models fed a high-fat, high-sugar diet that were given this treatment gained less weight, burned more calories, were more active, used more oxygen, and were better protected against glucose intolerance and insulin resistance than those that were fed the same diet but didn't get the anti-obesity treatment. Dyck says he hopes other research teams will move his work forward.

The research was funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Canadian Diabetes Association, Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions, and the Heart and Stroke Foundation. ■

Clearing the air on campus smoking bans

Brian Murphy

University of Alberta researchers who looked back at 40 years of cigarette smoking bans at Canadian university campuses have found a history of acceptance, one failure—and smoking "trolls."

The researchers looked at smoking restrictions put in place between 1970 and 2010 at the U of A, Lakehead University in Ontario and Dalhousie University in Halifax.

Of the three universities, the U of A is the only one today that does not have either a total campus-wide ban or designated smoking areas.

As with Lakehead and Dalhousie, there is no smoking allowed inside any building on the U of A campus, but outdoors, the university relies on a provincial law that bans smoking within five metres of doorways.

Damian Collins, a professor of human geography at the U of A and co-author of the study, says over the 40-year study period, smoking bans at all three universities started with lecture halls and labs.

"I don't think anybody wants to return to the '70s, when the professor at the front of the lecture theatre was smoking a pipe and the students' desks were equipped with ashtrays," said Collins.

Since that time, smoking bans have spread across campuses to all indoor locations, including residences and pubs, and finally to the great outdoors. But in 2012, only one university in the study, Dalhousie, has a total campus-wide smoking ban.

"Dalhousie has a major focus on medical research and training," said Collins. "Allowing smoking anywhere on the campus was inconsistent with the university's cancer research and training of health-care students."

"I don't think anybody wants to return to the '70s, when the professor at the front of the lecture theatre was smoking a pipe and the students' desks were equipped with ashtrays."

Damian Collins

Lakehead University tried a campus-wide smoking ban using its physical layout: a ring road surrounding the campus became a border beyond which people could smoke. Collins explained that enforcing the ban was difficult because it required smokers to walk the distance to the ring road.

"It just took too long for people, like university employees on a 15-minute break, to get from the centre of campus to the ring road for a smoke," said Collins.

The other problem for Lakehead was winter in Thunder Bay, Ont. "Because winters are so cold, smokers would find hiding places and the university was concerned about safety," said Collins. "The people who took shelter under bridges or behind trees were referred to as smoking trolls." Lakehead has since moved to designated smoking areas in wide-open parking lots on its campus.

Collins says there's evidence that bans on cigarette smoking are good for university students. "Taking up smoking has been a traditional response for young people at university, away from parental and teacher control for the first time in their lives," said Collins. "Campus bans help to prevent them from taking up the habit, and can encourage existing smokers to quit."

The research by Collins and Amy Procter-Scherdtel of the U of A's Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences was published in the journal *Health and Social Care in the Community*. ■



A new study by UAlberta researchers shows that smoking bans on Canadian university campuses have had a history of gradual acceptance, but have had mixed results.

Nursing professor recognized for expanding global perspective

Folio Staff

After nearly 30 years of teaching at the Faculty of Nursing, Linda Ogilvie has been recognized for her commitment and dedication by the University of Alberta with an inaugural Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching.

Ogilvie's involvement in teaching and mentoring of graduate students has included a strong emphasis on crafting opportunities for students and faculty to expand their potential through enhanced global experiences.

"I believe that both what and how we teach are relevant to the future of nursing," she said, "and that interprofessional collaboration and understanding of global interconnectivity are critical to the health of populations worldwide."

Ogilvie practises what she preaches—in 1998 she was appointed as the first director of the International Nursing Office. As well, in addition to having been involved in curriculum development for the faculty's master of nursing and PhD programs, Ogilvie was the director of a CIDA-funded project to initiate a master of philosophy (nursing) program in the School of Nursing at the University of Ghana. Since the program began in 2000, there have been 48 master of philosophy graduates and 14 graduates of a non-thesis master of science (nursing) program.

Choosing where to focus her research is one big part of why Ogilvie loves her time at the university; the other is the students.

"What I like about teaching at the U of A is the quality of the students and their interest in exploring new ideas," said Ogilvie, explaining that her students' curiosity piques her interest in expanding their horizons and their abilities to think in new ways.

"In many ways, how we teach is a reflection of the environment that we live in or work in," she said. "I've been lucky enough to work with colleagues who have been excellent role models and mentors who have shared their expertise." ■



Linda Ogilvie

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Celebrating teams that 'Dare to Discover'

Bev Betkowski

Teams from the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences, the Rhodiola Rosea Commercialization Project and the University of Alberta Office of Student Judicial Affairs have won the 2012 President's Achievement Award "Dare to Discover."

The team award was created to inspire and engage members of the university community, and honour their achievements in support of the university's goals.

The Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences Student Engagement Team of 14 faculty and staff has worked for the past three years to deepen experiential learning opportunities for its students, both locally and abroad.

The team has developed several service-learning programs in India, Mexico and Cuba, as well as study tours in Japan, allowing more than 50 students in the last year to examine issues of food security, poverty, human rights and sustainable agriculture. Through these and other programs, more than 600 hours of community service have been given by students, staff and faculty locally and globally.

The team also worked to provide students with mentorship and peer-based leadership opportunities, in the form of a Peer Helper Program and ULead, a year-long certificate program. "These enable ALES students to develop skills and gain meaningful experience they can use in their future careers," said team representative Shannon Clarke, student engagement co-ordinator for ALES.

Ultimately, the team hopes that students graduate from the U of A with a deeper understanding of themselves and their potential to contribute to positive social change, Clarke said.

"If students begin to think critically about social issues and find ways to weave that experience into future plans, we know that they'll leave us as people who will take action to provide solutions to global challenges."

The Rhodiola Rosea Commercialization Project was recognized for its teamwork in connecting communities for a common goal.

Professors, staff and students from several faculties, led by the faculties of pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences and medicine and dentistry, teamed up with collaborators to develop a commercialization project for *Rhodiola rosea*, an Alberta-grown plant that can be turned into a remedy to treat fatigue.

"We created a good network of people to go from the field to the medicine cabinet," said Raimar Loebenberg, professor in the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, speaking for the 28-person team, which also included U of A alumni and external researchers from Norway, Sweden and Finland.

Experts from the faculties of pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences, medicine and dentistry, ALES and nursing worked with Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development, the Alberta Research Council, Alberta analytical and engineering firms and farmers, to

establish a template for clinical trials as part of the commercialization process for future products.



(From left) Team players Shannon Clarke, Raimar Loebenberg and Deborah Eerkes are members of three U of A teams honoured for their outstanding work.

The Rhodiola Rosea project, which began in 2004, marked the first time that the Drug Development and Innovation Centre—based in the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences—provided clinical-trial materials for testing the product, a process that is usually done at the company level. But when venture capital is modest and clinical trials costly, "we can keep things in the university environment for longer," said Loebenberg. "There are not many facilities that can do it, and the U of A showed we can go from an idea up to a clinical trial, and this is unique within Canada."

At first glance, the two-person team of Deborah Eerkes and Chris Hackett may not be an obvious choice for providing a transformative, uplifting university experience for students—but in many ways, they do just that.

"What we try to do is make the University of Alberta a good place to be for students, and our little piece of that is student conduct," said Eerkes, director of the Office of Student Judicial Affairs. She and Hackett, as discipline officer, deal with issues related to the U of A's Code of Student Behaviour, but strive to be proactive in finding ways to help students.

These initiatives include the Truth in Education academic integrity program and website, which educate students about issues such as plagiarism. "The program can help students recognize academic misconduct when they see it."

Over the past few years, Eerkes and Hackett have also created other supportive and educational initiatives, including a restorative-justice program to help students deal with misconduct in a positive way, and a Coalition for Action on High-Risk Drinking.

Though the tiny team of two is busy, it is rewarding work, said Eerkes. "We get to work with all kinds of people on campus—faculty, staff and students. It's gratifying to have that reach within the university." ■

Rec and leisure studies turns 50

Jane Hurly

In 1962, at a time when Ernest Manning was premier of Alberta, John Diefenbaker was prime minister of Canada and the "Fab Four" of Liverpool were enjoying "mild fame" with a song called *Love Me Do*, the University of Alberta was hatching its first Bachelor of Arts degree in recreation and leisure studies. It was to be lucky year for both the Liverpool lads and the degree.

Since that auspicious beginning, when the late professors Al Affleck and Elsie McFarland began to realize their desire of deepening our understanding of the impact of leisure on quality of life, the undergraduate degree program has seen more than 2,000 graduates. More than 100 master's and doctoral degree recipients have passed through and made their way into society too, blazing their trails to better understanding of the role recreation and leisure play in every aspect of our well-being, from stewardship of special places such as national parks and wetlands, to deviant leisure from cultural norms of recreation and leisure among different populations, to leisure policy.

It's been a productive 50 years in a growing field. As of 2008, the province and its municipalities spent about \$1 billion on recreation.

Today, the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation is a major contributor to research in the field and is recognized across Canada

as a leader in this field. In 2010 an external review team recognized that "in terms of research and knowledge production/dissemination, the Faculty is a recognized leader in the study of ... leisure and tourism studies."

The outstanding work of researchers in the faculty led to the U of A being acknowledged as one of the top 10 most productive recreation and leisure studies research institutions in North America between 1990 and 1999, and between 2000 and 2008.

In addition, the U of A is the only academic institution

"The university is preparing—and has prepared for 50 years—the practitioners who manage the municipal recreation facilities and services that are on the front lines of today's battle against lifestyle illnesses."

Tim Burton

to have hosted the triennial Canadian Congress on Leisure Research twice.

Two of seven presidents of the Canadian Association for Leisure Studies, a national academic society founded at the Third Canadian Congress on Leisure Research held at the U of A in 1981, have been members of this faculty.

As the faculty established its footprint on the international stage, it hosted the first World Congress on Leisure Research in 1988, and over the years, three faculty members—professor emeritus Tim Burton, Gordon Walker and Karen Fox—became fellows of the prestigious Academy of Leisure Sciences, arguably the zenith of academic prestige in this field.

"The university is preparing—and has prepared for 50 years—the practitioners who manage recreation facilities and services that are on the front lines of today's battle against lifestyle illnesses such as obesity—particularly among children and youth—and Type 2 diabetes," said Burton, former chair in the area of recreation and leisure studies. "This is especially true in Alberta's small municipalities where commercial sport and fitness facilities and services are rare." ■

Engineering professors bust myths in new book

Richard Cairney

You can fool some of the people some of the time, but don't try it with Jason Carey and Warren Finlay. The mechanical engineering professors have written the book on debunking popular myths.

Entitled *Ice Bullets and Killer Pennies: 14 Myths Get the Scientific Shakedown*, the book is based on a mechanical engineering course the two teach.

Like the course, *Ice Bullets* presents readers with scenarios ranging from the plausible to the outrageous. The authors apply an engineer's analytical tools to determine whether a commonly held belief—that pennies dropped from the roof of a skyscraper would kill someone at street level, for example—is true or not. "Anybody interested in basic engineering—from

high-school students on up—will be interested in this," said Carey.

The two began teaching their Mechanical Engineering 415: Busting Myths With Analysis course in 2009. The class was inspired by the popular television program *MythBusters*, in which myths are presented, investigated and confirmed or proven impossible.

Along with the potential hazards of killer pennies, Carey and Finlay take on myths such as whether a typical hot-water tank could become pressurized and launch itself like a rocket through the roof of your home.

Other cases are more exotic: Could the bomb blast from an explosive device cushion your impact if you were falling from an airplane? Is it possible for a car to drive upside down on the ceiling of a tunnel, as seen in the movie *Men in Black*?

The book presents cases in a reader-friendly way but still gets technical,

including advanced mathematical formulas used to solve the problems.

Looking at the numbers will be satisfying for readers who understand the math behind them; for those who don't, it's another skill to master or, at the very least, an assurance that the authors have done their homework.

What the professors achieve with the course is that students draw on everything they've learned in their engineering program and apply that knowledge to solving problems. With backgrounds in solid mechanics and fluid mechanics respectively, Carey and Finlay are able to bring a range of situations for readers, and for their students, to puzzle over.

"I try to do forensic engineering," said Carey. "I try to get them to figure out how to approach something that isn't a conventional problem."

"In real life, you run into problems that don't fall into a neat little box," added Finlay. "So we ask our students



Mechanical engineering professors Warren Finlay and Jason Carey crunch numbers to solve mysteries in their myth-busting book.

to synthesize everything they've learned, to pull together all this knowledge they've got from various places, and apply these tools to these complex engineering problems, in an engaging way."

Readers will experience the same journey flipping through *Ice Bullets*—they'll learn something. As science journalist Bob McDonald says in his foreword to the book, "The fact that you can solve everyday problems or

resolve arguments at a party with a little scientific knowledge underlines just how engrained science is in our lives. We have never been so surrounded by so many products of science, and the world has never been so affected and changed by the technology that has come from this science."

Profits from sales of the book will go toward financial awards for students in the Mechanical Engineering 415 course. ■

news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the stories that recently appeared on the [ualberta.ca news](http://ualberta.ca/news) page. To read more, go to www.news.ualberta.ca.

MBA program one of the best

The Alberta School of Business MBA program finished fourth in Canada in the 2012 Corporate Knights magazine CSR survey, which looks at how institutions are training the future business workforce to adhere to principles of social responsibility. Noting opportunities to enrol in a new Alberta MBA Sustainability stream, the magazine also applauded opportunities for Alberta students to be involved outside the classroom and in the MBA Net Impact Alberta Chapter.

New guideline to help diagnose brain disease

Taim Muayqil and Richard Camicioli, neurologists in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, and an American colleague penned a new guideline that will help physicians diagnose a degenerative, fatal brain condition known as sporadic Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease.

The new guideline gives physicians guidance on when to conduct a specific spinal-fluid test looking for an elevated amount of 14-3-3 protein, which is found in the cerebrospinal fluid of patients with Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. The gold standard for diagnosing sporadic CJD is a brain biopsy, but it can be dangerous and can lead to brain damage.

Researchers say there are concerns about using this spinal-fluid test because it can give false positives and false negatives. However, in 92 per cent of the cases reviewed, the spinal-fluid test detected the rare disease, which typically leads to death within 12 months. "Hopefully this study can shed more light on the usefulness of this protein," said Muayqil. "We hope the new guideline is going to help neurologists in making decisions and diagnosing patients, especially in cases that are confusing."

China and Africa come together in Canada

The University of Alberta along with the federal government and the International Development Research Centre brought officials from China and the African continent together to find ways of addressing developing issues resulting from China's increasing involvement in the continent.

The meeting, recently held at IDRC's headquarters in Ottawa, brought top-ranking officials from Africa, China and the U.S., as well as the United Nations.

Their task during the two-day meeting, which was dubbed "China and Canada in Africa: Interests, Strategies and African Perspectives," was to address questions about humanitarian issues, peace, transparency and accountability, and economic links between Africa and Canada, and Africa and China, with consideration to ongoing developments in the continent.

"Canada tends to be more active in the exploration for minerals, and China tends to be more active in the actual utilization," said Houlden. "Both countries have their roles, and a better understanding of these developments is helpful."

He added, "Africa is being profoundly influenced by China. If we want to understand Africa, we have to understand the Chinese role."

Rec centres slow to adopt nutrition guidelines

While Alberta's recreation centres are making progress in offering healthier food choices to their clients—more than half of them youth—nutrition researcher Dana Olstad says much more needs to be done.

Of 151 recreational facilities surveyed, only six per cent are implementing the Alberta Nutrition Guidelines for Children and Youth, which were introduced in 2008 for voluntary use by schools, child-care facilities and recreation facilities.

Olstad, who conducted the study as a PhD candidate in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science and the School of Public Health, said recreation centres, with their emphasis on physical activity, can play a valuable role in influencing healthy lifestyle choices, and although food safety rules are in place to protect the public, the same doesn't apply for nutritional value, she noted.

She found many recreation centre managers believed that having unhealthy food on the menu was more profitable, and even facilities that did adopt the guidelines continued to offer unhealthy options along with healthy ones—for instance, offering sandwiches on whole-wheat bread, but still selling regular soft drinks.

"Although only a small percentage of facilities' revenues came from food sales, these revenues still mattered to them," Olstad said.

The research was funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

Occupational therapy program beamed to Calgary

Twelve students from the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine's master of occupational therapy program are currently training in Calgary, where they are using innovative learning technology, conducting research with industry partners and receiving hands-on clinical training.

"We operate the only occupational therapy program in Alberta and we need to serve the entire province," said Lili Liu, chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy. "It's a fantastic example of how the University of Alberta can work with another post-secondary institution and the two programs can interact and learn from one another and better understand each other's roles. This all fits with the Campus Alberta model."

The two-year pilot will demonstrate an innovative approach to learning, with students receiving classroom instruction via video conferencing and hands-on clinical training with 28 weeks of field placements.

Africa trip expands med students' education

Raquel Maurier

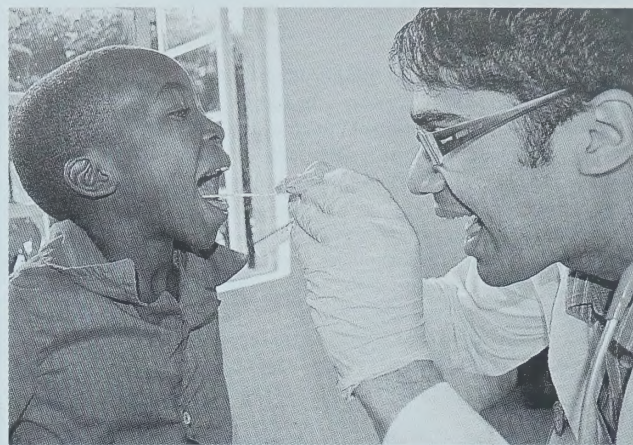
Three University of Alberta medical students recently returned from an elective in Kenya where they worked with patients who had anthrax, leukemia, tuberculosis and chronic conditions like arthritis.

Kent Comeau, Roshan Abraham and Ryan Knebel, all third-year students in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, said their four-week experience in Africa through A Better World Canada and their faculty's Office of Global Health will make them better doctors.

"Everyone was very conscious of their own mortality," said Abraham. "Even benign things were still very concerning to people, because for them, their livelihoods depended on it. It reminded me that part of our role as physicians is to provide comfort—to let them know, 'Everything will be OK,' or 'Here are some steps you can take to improve your health.' It is something I will definitely take with me in my career."

The trio travelled with Comeau's father, Ray, a family physician in Sylvan Lake; Comeau's mother, Deryl, a nurse; and another physician-nurse couple and their son, who is an engineer. The organization A Better World Canada provides patients with access to free medical care and free antibiotics, builds schools and orphanages, and provides clean water and sanitation in villages. This was the first year the organization included medical students, as a way to expand the students' education.

The group spent the first half of its trip in numerous villages about five hours outside of Nairobi. The drive to each village was between three and four hours. The clinics were usually set up in schools, and the group would see about 60 patients a day.



Medical student Roshan Abraham works with a child patient in Kenya.

Though many of the patients' ailments were similar to what the students would see in Canada, the lack of resources in Kenya provided some challenges.

“Everyone was very conscious of their own mortality. Even benign things were still very concerning to people, because for them, their livelihoods depended on it.”

Roshan Abraham

“We were limited with diagnostic testing and hardly any of the patients had medical records or charts, so

we started from scratch with lots of these patients,” said Comeau. “We were their first point of contact, so we had to get their history, do a physical and pool together all the information to formulate a plan to present to our preceptors.”

Patients had no qualms waiting for hours in line to see the Canadian contingent. Lineups snaked around clinics and down the street, or backed up onto nearby hills.

“They thought we could cure everything—the doctors and, to an extent, us,” said Abraham. “There were very, very high expectations. It was tough to grapple with that at first, but then you learned to leave that behind, and focus on your job and get it done.”

“It was also challenging to know that after we treated them there would be no continuity of care whatsoever. Even in clinics that had medical officers monitoring patients on a regular basis, we weren't sure how much information they would take from our assessments.” ■

classified ads

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR RENT

The following 4 homes are for lease by Gordon W.R. King & Assoc. Real Estate Corp. Amazing views, large homes, and much more!

TOP FLOOR RIVER GRANDE IN RIVERDALE. Million \$\$ location & views, vibrant neighbourhood w/ small town feel. West & South views. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, loft. Rent includes: heat, cable TV, water, tandem underground parking, car wash bay, storage, up to date games, social and fitness rooms, in suite laundry, all appl. A short walk/bike/drive downtown, U of A and Refinery Row. Call for details, more photos, showings. Available after Sept 15. \$2,400/month. Link to <http://www.rentedmonton.com/Detail.aspx?prop=de7480fb-ce62-4f9b-b6db-aed133f7cdee>. Call Michael Jenner/Janet Fraser Agents to View 780-441-6441 or email mikejenner@me.com.

BEAUTIFUL MILLION-DOLLAR VIEW. 2 bedrooms, 2 bath CONDO AT 9929 Saskatchewan Drive. 180 degree views, cork flooring and huge master suite. \$3,000/month, call today to view. Call Michael Jenner/Janet Fraser Agents to View 780-441-6441 or email mikejenner@me.com.

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STUNNING BUENA VISTA HOME FOR LEASE. Unique 3 bedroom, 2 bath home featuring all appliances, and is turnkey furnished. Built into the hill provides levels of yard, quiet and with a great view of the university. Double garage, open concept and much more. Close to transit, university and easy commute to downtown. \$3,200/month. Call Michael Jenner/Janet Fraser Agents to View 780-441-6441 or email mikejenner@me.com.

RIVERDALE CONDOMINIUM. 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom unit in downtown, river valley. Close to city core and the university. Rent includes heat, water, cable, underground parking, 7 appliances, wash bay, games, social and fitness rooms. Ryan or Karyn at 780-488-4492 or email popples@telu.net.

A LUXURY HOME FOR RENT OR SALE. Available Dec 1st. Newly renovated, 5 bedroom, 4 bathroom home in Riverbend, with 3,000 sq. ft. of living space. Fully furnished, \$3,100/month or buy it for \$638,000. For more info contact Mitra at artym@shaw.ca. View following link for pictures <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5JbMyFuz2ts&feature=youtu.be>.

SOUTH BELGRAVIA. New 3 bedroom house. \$2,880/month. Phone 780-886-6005 or for photos email daverichards@telus.net.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR SALE

RIVERDALE. 324, 9008 – 99 Avenue. \$355,000. Located in desirable,

downtown river valley. Walking distance to parks, trails, city core. Close to university. 1,160 sq.ft. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large balcony, underground parking, huge laundry room, tons of storage. Upgraded laminate flooring, ceramic tile, upgraded carpet, wood blinds, air conditioning, fireplace, 7 appliances. Amenities: guest suite; fitness, social and games room, library, car wash. 18+. Pet friendly. Condo fees include heat, water and CABLE. **HEALTHY RESERVE FUND.** Ryan or Karyn at 780-488-4492 or email popples@telus.net.

EXECUTIVE HOME IN PARKALLEN. Completely renovated with a legal secondary 1 bedroom suite. 11123 – 62 Ave, excellent location, close to U of A. 3 bedrooms, 3 full bathrooms, new appliances and more. Call Susan Janzen for info at 780-893-7989. List price \$545,000.

laurels

The Canadian Health Libraries Association has given Linda Slater the Margaret Ridley Charlton Award for Outstanding Achievement and named Dale Storie as the recipient of the association's Emerging Leader Award. Both are librarians from the university's John W. Scott Health Sciences Library.

Going beyond the architecture of assimilation

Michael Davies-Venn

It's not unusual that patrons of an art show come away baffled about the artist's intentions. But the current show at the FAB Gallery leaves little room for confusion.

In this case, the artist, Gavin Renwick—new Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in art and design, and the country's only current Canada Research Chair in design studies—is using *Counterpoint: The Aesthetics of Post-Colonialism* to answer some of the most daunting questions he's been grappling with since he left his native Scotland more than 15 years ago for Northern Canada. He came to investigate a claim that architecture is not benign, but is a fundamental part of a colonial enterprise. His search took him to Yellowknife, N.W.T., where his attention has been focused ever since.

With some pieces in the multimedia show constantly changing, and with a studio for Renwick right in the middle of it all, audiences are guaranteed never to have a repeat experience at this exhibition. Take "Where Extremes Meet," for example. What began as a virtually blank canvas has been transformed by patrons into a multicoloured piece, replete with brushstrokes as different as their responses to Renwick's question on the piece, "How do we indigenize Canada?"

Renwick says that through these sorts of questions, the show tries to create a dialogue between Canada and the Aboriginal world.

Another question Renwick explores is how to design a building that responds to time, which he calls the fourth dimension of architecture. An evolving answer to that question is a miniature structure he is designing as part of the show, which will become a cultural

facility in the Sambaa K'e community in the Northwest Territories.

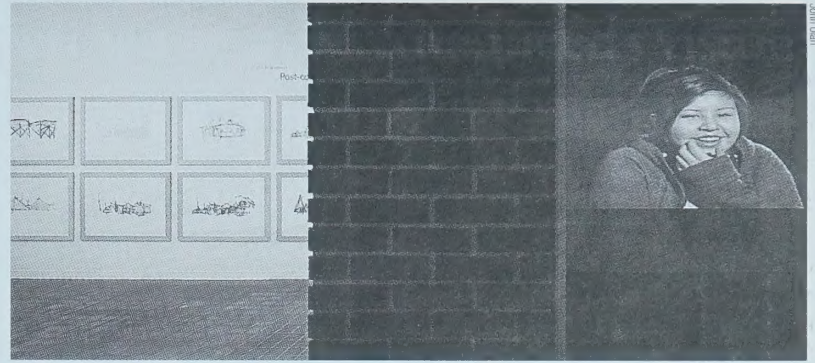
"It will help promote and sustain their cultural community, a place for dialogue with their youths and elders, and members from other communities," he says.

While Renwick was in Yellowknife for his PhD research, Dene elders approached him with a proposition. "They wanted someone who could help articulate their cultural idea of home, so that was my original work. My PhD went off in a tangent, as well as my life, and that took me to where I am now."

"We largely see sustainability as a technological issue. Their idea of sustainability is much more holistic. It has to do with community wellness, cultural continuity and living with some degree of empathy with the ecosystem."

Gavin Renwick

In Dene languages, Renwick explains, there is no distinction between inside and outside space; there's just the idea of a homeland. "How as an architect do you begin to work with ideas that don't create that barrier between inside and outside space?" he says. "What I'm working on now is a series of structures that are intrinsically flexible, that will be utilized and occupied differently, and even physically look different, from season to season."



Counterpoint, a new multimedia exhibit at the FAB Gallery, poses questions about the place of Aboriginal culture within Canada's multicultural society.

"For example, a structure might open up in the summer and close up in the winter, integrating the fourth dimension into architectural design: time."

He says the show's dynamic nature is consistent with its title, which is to create dialogue. "There's no equality in the dialogue between Canada and the Aboriginal world. So in one sense this exhibition is a small attempt to create some degree of parity in the dialogue between these two worlds," he says. "The gallery is a visual metaphor for my working method. As I sit and develop buildings for the communities, I can make reference to all this work in the gallery and I can talk to people about why and how I'm using it, and why it's such an expansive approach to design."

The dialogue, Renwick says, is about land claim and identity. "Aboriginal people maintain their sense of cultural continuity and identity despite Canada, not because of Canada," he says. "Canada—and I speak here as a voluntary immigrant myself—is the only country in the world that has a policy of multiculturalism, but that doesn't work if you're Aboriginal. Everyone else can be multicultural, whereas the Aboriginal world exists to be assimilated. So how do we get beyond that? How do we

include the Aboriginal world within that multicultural project? That interests me."

It's here that he's using his design skills, knowledge of Aboriginal cultures and trust built over decades to use architecture, which he says has been a tool for assimilation and colonization, to help the Deh Cho people he works with to build culturally appropriate structures.

"Modernity to these people was largely the period of colonization and assimilation, so it's a tainted term, it's a tainted project. How do we make that leap from a traditional and holistic relationship to community, to post-modernity to post-colonialism, which this community is trying to do?"

The answer to that, he says, is hybridity—to "take traditional environmental knowledge and combine it with contemporary design practice with environmental technologies to create something that's stronger for them and for Canada," he says. "We largely see sustainability as a technological issue. Their idea of sustainability is much more holistic. It has to do with community wellness, cultural continuity and living with some degree of empathy with the ecosystem."

The show runs until Oct. 13 at the FAB Gallery. ■

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, email or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and at www.news.ualberta.ca/events. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

OCT. 5

Vampire Nation: Violence as Cultural Imaginary. Named after a new book and lecture by Tomislav Longinovic, professor of Slavic and Comparative Literature at the University of Wisconsin, Vampire Nation is a nuanced analysis of the cultural and political rhetoric framing 'the Serbs' as metaphorical vampires in the last decades of the 20th century, as well as the cultural imaginaries and rhetorical mechanisms that inform nationalist discourses more broadly. This post-Yugoslav study of violence poses crucial questions about how Serbian violence has been understood from within Serbian culture, from within the Yugoslav and post-Yugoslav framework, and from the external perspective of the European gaze. 3–5 p.m. 1-05 Alberta School of Business.

OCT. 6

Philosophers' Café. Rob Wilson, professor in the Department of Philosophy, will moderate a Philosophers' Café on the topic How Does Eugenics Do Its Work: Past and Present? 1–3:30 p.m. Steeps the Urban Tea House.

OCT. 8

Thanksgiving. University closed.

OCT. 9

The Legal Forum Centenary Speakers Series. Stephen Ross, professor at the

Penn State Dickinson College of Law, will be on hand to give a talk entitled Sports Law, Current State of Labour Relations in the NHL. Noon–1:50 p.m. 231/237 Law Centre.

OCT. 10

Research Colloquium. Michael McNally, assistant professor in the School of Library and Information Studies, will give a talk entitled Developing a Framework for Assessing Alternatives to Intellectual Property. In this talk, McNally presents the findings of his doctoral dissertation, which focused on developing a framework for assessing how alternatives to intellectual property can mitigate the problems associated with the over-protection of IP. Noon–1 p.m. 2-09 Rutherford South.

OCT. 11 & 12

Water Governance, Energy Development & Indigenous Rights. This two-day symposium will explore critical issues of water management, distribution, monitoring, and indigenous rights in N.W.T. and Alberta with reference to distribution, pollution, monitoring and management, and indigenous rights. 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Lister Conference Centre.

OCT. 12

Centre for Neuroscience Seminar Series. Christopher Ford, professor

in the Department of Physiology and Biophysics, Case Western University, Cleveland, will be giving a talk entitled Mechanisms Underlying Dopamine Synaptic Transmission. Noon–1 p.m. 9-68 Medical Sciences Building.

Wirth Institute: Central European Cafe II – Internationalization. 2–3 p.m. Arts & Convocation Hall's Faculty Lounge.

Distinguished Lecture Series. Leslie Valiant of Harvard University will be on hand to give a talk entitled Biological Evolution as a Form of Learning. 3–4:30 p.m. 1-140 CCIS.

OCT. 15

Articles, Prepositions & Cookies. The Centre for Writers invites everyone to weekly workshops on the English language and free food. No registration required. Workshops are led by Lucie Moussu, director of the Centre for Writers. 2–3 p.m. 1-26 Assiniboia Hall.

History, Magic and Poetry: Imagining A Transnational Odyssey by M. G. Vassanji. A reception and book signing to follow the lecture. 7–9 p.m. 150 TELUS Centre.

OCT. 17

Arts Career Fair. The Arts Career Fair is a special event for students and graduates from the Faculty of Arts. This is an opportunity for Arts students and graduates to connect with employers

who hire from their faculty. For more information visit the CAPS website at www.caps.ualberta.ca. 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Dinwoodie Lounge (2-000 SUB).

Educated Luncheon. The correlation between working out and being healthy might not be as strong as you think. And despite what Big Pharma may lead you to believe, there simply isn't a cure for everything that ails you. Timothy Caulfield, professor in the Faculty of Law and School of Public Health and author of "The Cure for Everything," will present this lecture entitled Fact or Fiction: Exercise Leads to Weight Loss. Register online. Noon–1 p.m. Enterprise Square.

OCT. 18

24th Annual McDonald Lecture in Constitutional Studies. David Frum, contributing editor at Newsweek, will take a comparative look at judicial legitimacy in the United States and Canada in this talk entitled Judicial Legitimacy: How It Is Gained, How It Is Lost. 5–6 p.m. 150 TELUS Centre.

NFB Film Presentation. Pink Ribbon Campaign (L'Industrie du ruban rose), 7–9 p.m. Campus Saint-Jean.

OCT. 19–21

Canadian Art Therapy Association Conference co-hosted by St. Stephen's College. 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Lister Centre.

OCT. 19

Wirth Institute and Material Cultures Studies Lecture: Professor Veronika Hyden-Hanscho. University of Wrocław, will be on hand to give a talk entitled The Invisible Globalization: French Atlantic Products in Austria's 18th-Century Material Culture. Noon–1 p.m. Arts & Convocation Hall's Senate Chamber.

OCT. 20

University of Alberta Open House. The university's annual open house allows prospective students to explore our campus and the programs offered here. For more information please visit www.ualberta.ca/openhouse. 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Butterdome.

Playing Your Cards Right! A New Way to Think About Retirement and the Future. 1-09 Alberta School of Business. 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

OCT. 22

Minds That Matter Gairdner Symposium. Lectures will be given by Howard Cedar (Programming of DNA Methylation), Lorne Babiuk (Vaccines: Potential for Improving Human and Animal Health), and Michael Young (The Genetics of Sleep and Circadian Rhythms in Drosophila). 2–5 p.m. 2-490 ECHA.



An Enduring View

PHOTOS

JOHN ULAN, MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Erected in advance of the Dentistry/Pharmacy Building's 1921 opening, the tower atop the landmark in the centre of the North Campus is arguably the U of A's most recognizable architectural feature. Building services worker Rick Durocher shows off the university's famous cupola like you've never seen it before.